

**U.S. Department of Labor**

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**GEORGIA JOB CORPS STUDENTS SERVE THEIR COMMUNITIES**  
**Georgia Job Corps Centers Donated 21,935 Hours to Volunteer Projects in 2004**

ATLANTA – Georgia Job Corps students displayed their talents and skills as well as their love for their communities by contributing 21,935 hours of community service in 2004.

Whether stocking shelves and distributing food to the needy with Goodwill, assisting the American Red Cross with local blood drives or even framing walls and hanging sheetrock for Habitat for Humanity, students at the three Georgia Job Corps centers (Atlanta, Brunswick and Turner) put their job skills training to use and made a lasting impact in the communities around them.

“Job Corps has been making a difference in the lives of our students and our neighbors since its founding 40 years ago,” said Job Corps Atlanta Region Director Don Scott. “Giving back to the communities where our centers are located is one of the most important things we do as a program each year.”

Students at the Atlanta Job Corps Center worked with more than two dozen organizations in 2004 and contributed 7,290 hours of community service, topping last year’s mark by more than 3,000 hours. Volunteer projects included: sorting and delivering winter clothes to the homeless, organizing community blood drives, tutoring local elementary and middle school children, and assisting local organizations with various volunteer projects. Throughout the year, Atlanta JCC worked with organizations such as the American Red Cross, Goodwill, Hands on Atlanta and The Salvation Army.

Brunswick JCC donated 759 hours of service to the community. Students and staff assisted event coordinators at multiple Special Olympics events, worked with United Way during its Day of Caring and also worked with Adopt a Highway for community beautification. Brunswick JCC was also heavily involved in October’s National Make a Difference Day as well as National Youth Service Day.

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Turner Job Corps Center led all Georgia centers with 13,886 hours of community service during 2004. Because of its outstanding contributions, Turner JCC was awarded the Superior Community Service of the Year Award by the Albany Police Department. Students assisted with local blood drives, low-income housing renovation, multiple community construction projects and tutoring and mentoring local elementary school students. During the past year Turner JCC worked with organizations like the Albany Police Department, the Alzheimer's Association, Habitat for Humanity and Turner Elementary School.

"Job Corps has been making a difference in the lives of the nation's youth since its inception, and it's vital that we teach our students the importance of giving back to their communities," Scott said. "This year we are celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and there's no better way to commemorate this occasion than by making a difference in the communities that have provided support and encouragement to each of our centers for the last four decades."

Job Corps students nationwide represent one of the largest volunteer forces in the United States. Collectively, the 19 centers in the Southeast (Job Corps Atlanta Region) donated more than 101,119 hours of community service in 2004.

Projects in the region include:

- ? Blood drives with the American Red Cross
- ? Providing support for The Salvation Army
- ? Beautification projects for Make a Difference Day
- ? Various fund-raising events with local schools and churches
- ? Cleanup projects for Adopt-a-Highway
- ? Walk-a-thons benefiting various organizations (March of Dimes, Leukemia Society)
- ? Visiting the elderly in nursing homes

Job Corps is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from September 2004 to September 2005. Job Corps is the nation's largest and oldest federally funded job training and education program for disadvantaged youths ages 16 through 24. At 122 centers nationwide, the program trains 65,000 youth each year in more than 100 different trade areas. For more information about Job Corps, call (800) 733-JOBS or visit <http://jobcorps.doleta.gov>.

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